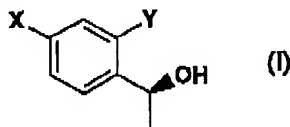


AMENDMENT TO CLAIMSIn the Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of Formula (I)



Wherein X is F, Cl, Br, I or R¹:

~~X and Y are each independently selected from the group consisting of is H, Cl, Br, I and or~~
R¹;

R¹ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl or (CH₂)_nCOR²;

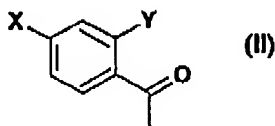
n is an integer from 1 to 10;

R² is OH, OR³ or NH₂; and

R³ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl,

C₃₋₇cycloalkyl or substituted or unsubstituted aryl;

by stereoselective reduction of a compound of Formula (II)



wherein X is F, Cl, Br or I; and

~~X and Y are each independently selected from the group consisting of is H, Cl, Br, I or R¹;~~

R¹ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, or (CH₂)_nCOR²;

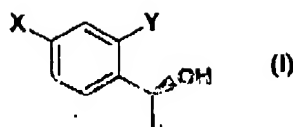
n is an integer from 1 to 10;

R² is OH, OR³ or NH₂; and

R³ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl or substituted or unsubstituted aryl;

by reaction with an oxidoreductase enzyme capable of ~~catalyzing~~ catalyzing the enzymatic reduction of ketones represented by Formula (II), wherein said oxidoreductase enzyme is the *Pichia methanolica* ketoreductase of Figure 1 as expressed in *Escherichia Coli*.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of Formula (I)



wherein X is F, Cl, Br, I or R¹; and

~~X and Y are each independently selected from the group consisting of is H, Cl, Br, I or R¹~~;

R¹ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, or (CH₂)_nCOR²;

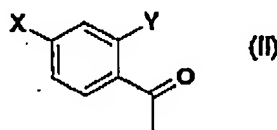
n is an integer from 1 to 10;

R² is OH, OR³ or NH₂; and

R³ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl,

C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl or substituted or unsubstituted aryl;

by stereoselective reduction of a compound of Formula (II)



wherein X is F, Cl, Br, I or R¹; and

~~X and Y are each independently selected from the group consisting of is H, Cl, Br, I or R¹~~;

R¹ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl or (CH₂)_nCOR²;

n is an integer from 1 to 10;

R² is OH, OR³ or NH₂; and

R³ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl,

C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl or substituted or unsubstituted aryl;

comprising reacting said compound of Formula (II) with a microorganism that supplies an oxidoreductase enzyme capable of ~~catalyzing~~ catalyzing the enzymatic reduction of ketones represented by Formula (II), wherein the microorganism is Candida sonorensis, Candida boidini, Candida quilliermondii, Candida utilis, Candida maltosa, Candida kefir, Candida parapsilosis, Geotrichum candidum, Rhodotorula glutinis, Hansenula fabianii, Hansenula polymorpha, Hansenula satumus, Nocardia salmonicolor, Pichia anomala, Pichia capsulata, Pichia membranifaciens, Pichia methanolica, Pichia pinus, Pichia silvicola, Pichia stipitis, Sphingomonas paucimobilis, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, Yeast, and Baker's Yeast.

Claim 3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said microorganism that supplies an oxidoreductase enzyme is selected from the group consisting of *Pichia methanolica* ATCC 56510,

Pichia methanolica ATCC 56508 and *Pichia methanolica* ATCC 58403 and wherein said oxidoreductase is a ketoreductase.

Claim 5. (New) The process of Claim 2 wherein the microorganism is *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

Claim 6. (New) The process of Claim 2 where X is F and Y is Br.

Claim 7 (New) The process of Claim 2 where X is F and Y is R¹ which is (CH₂)_nCOOR³ where R³ is alkyl.

Claim 8 (New) The process of Claim 1 where X is F and Y is Br.

Claim 9 (New) The process of Claim 2 wherein X is F and Y is Br.

Claim 10 (New) The process of Claim 1 where X is F and Y is R¹ which is (CH₂)_nCOOR³ where R³ is alkyl.